GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:363
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2001
PACKAGE TO EXPORTERS
CHADA SURESH REDDY;RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Government have given / propose to give any special package to the exporters keeping in view the recession in Indian export; (

(b) if so, the details thereof; (

(c) whether his Ministry has sent some proposals to the finance ministry in this regard; (

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of Finance ministry thereto; (

(e) whether his ministry has also asked to increase the limit of financial assistance being provided to State Governments for export promotion from Rs.100 crore to Rs.400 crore per annum during the Tenth Five Year Plan; (

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(g) whether the Government have not yet distributed the funds allocated for States in the current budget; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) to (h) : A Statement is laid on the table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (h) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 363 ANSWER ON 14.12.2001 REGARDING PACKAGE TO EXPORTERS

(a) to (b): Yes Sir. The export situation is monitored on a continuing basis and the policy changes are announced whenever necessary. Some of the major steps announced on March 31st, 2001, include reduction in transaction costs through decentralisation and computerisation, simplification of procedures, setting up of Agri-export Zones, Market Access Initiative and setting up ofa business cum trade facilitation center. Some of the recent measures taken to promote exports in the context of the continuing downturn in the global economic growth include reduction in the export credit rate, extension of normal repatriation period from 180 days to 360 days for exports made to Latin American countries and upward revision of duty drawback rates. All these steps have been taken with the concurrence of Ministry of Finance.

(c) to (d): Yes Sir. The Ministry of Finance has approved an amount of Rs.97 crore for the new scheme on `Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development and Exports` (ASIDE).

(e) to (f): Yes Sir. The allocation for the aforesaid scheme is expected to be increased to Rs.400 crore next year as per availability of plan funds.

(g) to (h): Yes Sir. The government has not yet distributed the funds as final approval of the Planning Commission is awaited.